

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 046930

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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TODEP 207 SALT

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TAGS: US, PINT, PARM, XG

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

MANILA FOR RUSH

VIENNA AND GENEVA FOR MBFR AND CSCE

INFO FOR PAOS

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PAGE 02 STATE 046930

1. HIGHLIGHTS. FRIDAY MORNING PAPERS FEATURE DOMESTIC
NEWS;NYTIMES FRONTPAGES KISSINGER WARNS SENATORS HE WOULD
URGE VETO OF TRADE BILL IF IT IS LINKED TO SOVIET EMIGRA-
TION; WASHPOST FRONTPAGES US-EUROPE TALKS CALLED OFF,

NEW DISCORD NOTED. MONDAY BALTSUN HAD CSCE STORY. JOSEPH ALSOP ON SALT TODAY.

1A. FRONT-PAGE STORIES INCLUDE: SIX INDICTED FOR BREAK-IN AT ELLSBERG'S PSYCHIATRIST'S: EHRLICHMAN, COLSON, LIDDY, BARKER, MARTINEZ, DE DIEGO; NOT INDICTED BUT NAMED AS CO-CONSPIRATORS WERE: KROGH, HUNT, YOUNG. PRESIDENT, IN APPARENT ATTEMPT TO LIMIT SCOPE OF IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY TO WATERGATE, HAS REFUSED TO GIVE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE TAPES THAT DO NOT BEAR DIRECTLY ON WATERGATE COVER-UP. NIXON'S DISCLOSURE HE LEARNED OF HUSH MONEY ON MARCH 21 RAISES NEW QUESTIONS UNDER FEDERAL LAW REQUIRING THAT KNOWLEDGE OF A FELONY BE REPORTED TO APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES. WITNESS TESTIFIES MITCHELL GOT FAST ACTION FOR VESCO, CITING

HIS TELEPHONE CALL THAT LED CASEY OF SEC TO MEET WITH VESCO LAWYER WITHIN HOURS AFTER CONTRIBUTING 200,000 DOLLARS.

1B. INSIDE TIMES HAS GERMANY'S FINALLY AGREE ON DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, ACCORD REACHED AFTER EAST ALLOWS BONN TO REPRESENT WEST BERLIN INTERESTS; ALSO BONN SEES ITSELF IN MIDDLE, FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN PARIS AND WASHINGTON; PLUS US DENIES REVIEW ON FRANCE; HEDRICK SMITH MOSCOW REPORTS GROMYKO'S SHUTTLE RACE WITH KISSINGER IS BEING READ AS EVIDENCE OF MOSCOW'S CONCERN OVER HOW TO MAINTAIN STRONG MIDEAST POSITION AS ARABS AND ISRAELIS TURN FROM HOSTILITY TO NEGOTIATIONS; ALSO, EARLY NIXON VISIT STILL A SOVIET AIM.

1C. WASHPOST HAS VIENNA UPI REPORTING TROOP REDUCTION TALKS WILL ADJOURN FOR EASTER TO GIVE DELEGATES TIME FOR DETAILED CONSULTATION WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS, ACCORDING TO SPOKESMAN FOR WESTERN ALLIES. POST ALSO HAS TOKYO AGENCY FRANCE-PRESSE REPORTING JAPAN HAS ASKED SOVIETS THROUGH MOSCOW EMBASSY TO CANCEL SOME OF ITS METEOROLOGICAL ROCKET FIRINGS OVER PACIFIC WHICH COULD AFFECT UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 046930

JAPANESE AIRLINE FLIGHTS AND FISHING OPERATIONS. POST ALSO REPORTS 700 REBELS DEFECT IN CAMBODIA.

2. KISSINGER ON TRADE. NYTIMES GWERTZMAN REPORTS KISSINGER TOLD SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE YESTERDAY HE WOULD RECOMMEND VETO OF NIXON ADMINISTRATION'S OWN TRADE BILL IF CONGRESS REFUSED TO GRANT TRADE CONCESSIONS TO SOVIET UNION BECAUSE OF ITS RESTRICTIONS ON FREE EMIGRATION OF JEWS AND OTHERS. KISSINGER PROMISED SENATORS THAT HE AND OTHER ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS WOULD TRY TO REACH COMPROMISE WITH THOSE LINKING TRADE AND EMIGRATION ISSUES TO AVOID HAVING CONGRESS APPROVE TRADE BILL IN FORM PRESIDENT WOULD VETO. KISSINGER SAID "WE CANNOT ACCEPT THE PRINCIPLE THAT OUR ENTIRE FOREIGN POLICY--OR EVEN AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF THAT POLICY SUCH AS NORMALIZATION

OF TRADE RELATIONS--SHOULD BE MADE DEPENDENT ON TRANSFORMATION OF SOVIET DOMESTIC STRUCTURE." MOST MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE GAVE KISSINGER SYMPATHETIC HEARING IN HIS FIRST PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON CAPITOL HILL SINCE BEING CONFIRMED SECRETARY OF STATE. KISSINGER ARGUED THAT FAILURE TO TREAT SOVIET UNION AS NORMAL TRADING PARTNER COULD SET BACK OVERALL RELATIONS WITH MOSCOW, INCREASE POTENTIAL FOR TROUBLE IN MIDDLE EAST JEOPARDIZE SALT TALKS, AND, IN THE END, FAIL TO IMPROVE CONDITION OF SOVIET JEWS. KISSINGER SAID MAJOR IMPACT OF CONTINUED DENIAL OF MFN STATUS TO SOVIETS WOULD BE POLITICAL, NOT ECONOMIC, KISSINGER ADDING "OUR UNWILLINGNESS TO REMOVE THIS DISCRIMINATION NOW WILL

CALL INTO QUESTION OUR INTENT TO MOVE TOWARD AN IMPROVED RELATIONSHIP."

2A. WASHPOST MARDER ADDS THAT AFTER MEETING WEDNESDAY NIGHT WITH JACKSON, KISSINGER IMPLIED TO SENATE COMMITTEE THAT COMPROMISE WITH CONGRESS MAY BE IN MAKING BUT JACKSON IN STATEMENT INDICATED OPPOSITE, INSISTING THERE MUST BE REVERSAL OF CURRENT SOVIET PRACTICES TO SOLVE IMPASSE. IN HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE, KISSINGER SAID A CONCEPT THROUGH WHICH CONGRESS COULD LOOK BACK WITHIN A YEAR OR TWO ON EXECUTIVE ACTION IS THE DIRECTION IN WHICH A COMPROMISE MIGHT WELL MOVE. KISSINGER SAID HE HAD SOME INFORMAL TALKS WITH JACKSON, PLANS TALKS WITH OTHER SENATORS AND SAID HE HAD BEEN MEETING REGULARLY UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 046930

WITH MEMBERS OF JEWISH COMMUNITY. WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEETING WITH JACKSON INCLUDED DISCUSSIONS OF TRADE BILL, SALT TALKS AND MIDDLE EAST.

3. US AND EUROPE. NYTIMES WHITNEY BONN SAYS WEST GERMAN OFFICIALS AND DIPLOMATS FEEL THE AMERICAN CRITICISM OF EEC'S ARAB OFFER HAS PUT THEM IN POSITION OF HAVING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN FRANCE AND US WHICH, THEY SAY, IS EXACTLY WHERE KISSINGER KEEPS SAYING HE DOESN'T WANT THEM TO BE, ONE DIPLOMAT ADDING REAL TARGET IS PROBABLY THE FRENCH, NOT US. THERE IS NO QUESTION OF MARKET DECISION BEING A FAIT ACCOMPLI, ACCORDING GERMAN SOURCES, BECAUSE WASHINGTON WAS KEPT INFORMED ALL ALONG.

3A. TIMES WASHINGTON TRAILER IS HEADED: US DENIES REVIEW ON FRANCE, STORY REPORTING VEST SAID NO SPECIAL POLICY REVIEW OF US RELATIONS WITH FRANCE IS UNDER WAY, ADDING: I ALWAYS USE STUDY AS MEANING SOMETHING WHICH WILL PRODUCE OR IS PRODUCING A WRITTEN PIECE OF PAPER. TIMES SPECIAL SAYS ITS REPORT OF YESTERDAY WAS BASED ON BACKGROUND INFORMATION PROVIDED DURING LAST WEEK BY OFFICIALS FAMILIAR WITH FRENCH RELATIONS, ONE OFFICIAL OBSERVING THAT HE AND OTHERS HAD BEEN REEXAMINING US POLICY TOWARD FRANCE SINCE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE.

3B. WASHPOST MORGAN REPORTS THAT HIGH-LEVEL AMERICAN EUROPEAN CONSULTATIONS ON A PROPOSED DECLARATION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PRINCIPLES, SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK IN BONN, HAVE BEEN CALLED OFF IN THE AFTERMATH OF A FEW DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES, BUT AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN DIPLOMATS DIFFER ON REASON FOR CANCELLATION. SENIOR EUROPEAN DIPLOMATS, SAYS

MORGAN, SAID IT WAS CALLED OFF BECAUSE OF AMERICAN ANNOY-
MORGAN, SAID IT WAS CALLED OFF BECAUSE OF AMERICAN ANNOY-
ANCE WITH MARKET-ARAB DECISION, WHEREAS AMERICAN OFFICIALS
SAID MEETING HAD BEEN POSTPONED TO GIVE US ADEQUATE TIME
TO STUDY SERIOUSLY A NEW EUROPEAN DRAFT DECLARATION RE-
CEIVED ONLY MONDAY IN BRUSSELS. MORGAN REPORTS SOME
FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNOYANCE WITH THE INDEPENDENT EUROPEAN
OVERTURE, YET KISSINGER SAID: A WAY IS STILL OPEN TO A CO-
OPERATIVE FRAMEWORK AND WE WILL MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 046930

IMPLEMENT IT. SENIOR DIPLOMATS, SAYS MORGAN, SAID THEY
BELIEVED THE FRENCH TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THEIR ABLE LEADER-
SHIP AND DETERMINED BUREAUCRACY TO PUSH THROUGH THE ARAB
PROPOSITION IN THE CONFUSION CAUSED BY THE BRITISH
ELECTION AND SCHEEL'S POLITICAL WEAKNESS.

3C. MONDAY BALTSUN OISHI BONN STORY HAD DIFFERENT SLANT
FROM LATIMES MORRIS CABLED YESTERDAY, OISHI REPORTING A
SENIOR US OFFICIAL TRAVELING WITH KISSINGER SAID A BREAK-
THROUGH IN CSCE COULD COME WITHIN A FEW WEEKS WITH A
COMPROMISE SOLUTION TO THE KNOTTY ISSUE OF CREATING
FREER EAST-WEST CONTACTS, SENIOR OFFICIAL SAYING SOME COM-
PROMISE WAS BEING WORKED OUT AND THAT CONCESSIONS FROM BOTH
SIDES WERE POSSIBLE. OISHI ADDS OFFICIAL WHO DECLINED TO
BE IDENTIFIED ALSO SAID SOME AGREEMENT WAS POSSIBLE BY
YEAR'S END IN VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS ON TROOP REDUCTIONS, SUG-
GESTING THAT AN AGREEMENT AT LEAST ON FIRST PHASE OF
WESTERN PROPOSAL--WHICH CALLS FOR REDUCTIONS OF US AND
SOVIET TROOPS IN THE AREA--WAS IN THE OFFING. OISHI SAYS
WHILE NATO MEMBERS NOW AGREE THAT FIRST REDUCTIONS SHOULD
INVOLVE ONLY AMERICANS AND RUSSIANS, THEY NO DOUBT WILL
INSIST ON GETTING A SOVIET COMMITMENT TO A MULTILATERAL
CUT OF ALL TROOPS IN THE AREA. RE CSCE, SAYS OISHI, THE
US OFFICIAL SUGGESTED THERE MIGHT BE SOME WESTERN CON-
CESSIONS ON THE POINT OF TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NATIONAL LAWS
WITHIN SOVIET BLOC WHICH PRECLUDE A COMPLETE LOWERING OF
BARRIERS, ADDING IT WAS NEVER CONTEMPLATED THAT THE CON-
FERENCE WOULD RESULT IN TOTALLY FREE EXCHANGE, BUT ONLY A
LIBERALIZATION.

4. JOSEPH ALSOP HOLDS THAT ESSENTIAL EQUIVALENCE IS NOW
THE OFFICIAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AMERICAN OBJECTIVE IN
SALT BUT THAT ANYTHING LIKE A REAL AGREEMENT BASED ON THIS

WILL BE ALL BUT IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN FROM THE SOVIETS.
SALT I, SAYS ALSOP, DID NOT REMOTELY REPRESENT ESSENTIAL
EQUIVALENCE DUE TO US UNDERESTIMATION OF SOVIET PROGRESS
IN WEAPONRY. NOTHING LIKE ESSENTIAL EQUIVALENCE CAN POS-

SIBLY BE ATTAINED EXCEPT AT THE EXPENSE OF THE SOVIET
MILITARY AND ALSOP DOUBTS BREZHNEV WILL GET TOUGH WITH
GRECHKO.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 046930

5. INDIA. WASHPOST SIMONS NEW DELHI REPORTS THAT WITH
KISSINGER EXPECTED TO VISIT NEW DELHI IN NEXT FEW
WEEKS, GOVERNMENT IS STRUGGLING TO HOLD THE LID ON AN
ANTI-AMERICAN TEMPEST BROUGHT UP BY LEFTIST MEMBERS OF
PARLIAMENT. GANDHI AND HER GOVERNMENT ARE ANXIOUSLY TRY-
ING TO LET THE US KNOW IN ADVANCE OF KISSINGER'S TRIP THAT
WHILE THEY ARE OPPOSED TO A MAJOR POWER BUILDUP IN THE
INDIAN OCEAN, THEY ARE NOT OVERLY UPSET WITH THE
PENTAGON'S PLANS FOR DIEGO GARCIA. THE GOVERNMENT RE-
PORTEDLY FEARS THAT IF THE POT BOILS OVER BEFORE KISSINGER
ARRIVES, HOPED-FOR DISCUSSIONS ON STRENGTHENING INDO-
AMERICAN TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION WILL SUFFER. KISSINGER

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